

(d) the number of boats which are likely to be engaged for this purpose in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The total area of the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone is 20.13 lakh sq Km

(b) to (d): The force levels of the Coast Guard are being developed in accordance with the Coast Guard Plan 2000 and the five-yearly Coast Guard Development Plans, subject to the availability of funds. The number of patrol boats with the Coast Guard is also being enhanced progressively to enable them to discharge their patrolling duties effectively

Smuggling Through Green Channel

4996. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of smuggling of electronics and other items by passengers passing through green channel at Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta airports have come to the notice of the Government

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check such evasion of customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The number of cases and value of goods including electronic goods seized during the last one year by the customs authorities from passengers passing through green channel at the international airports located at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta are as follows -

AIRPORTS	NO. OF CASES	VALUE (Rs. in lacs)
Bombay	1986	375.0
Madras	14	30.9
Calcutta	165	165.0

At Delhi airport, the total number of cases of concealment/misdeclaration by passengers was 3137 and value of goods involved was Rs. 240 lacs for the year 1991. At Delhi airport record is not maintained for cases of concealment/misdeclaration separately in respect of red and green channels.

(c) Customs authorities are alert against smuggling activities. Intelligence is targeted against such activities. Sophisticated equip-

ments such as X-ray, baggage metal detectors etc. are being increasingly used. Preventive and Intelligence officers maintain surveillance and take appropriate action for interception of suspicious persons.

Export of Price

4997. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VARMA :
SHRI DHARMA BIKSHAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the companies which exported rice during 1991-92,

(b) the quantity of rice exported by each of the companies during the above period; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Alleged Illegal Dealings of Liquor in Canteens

4998. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some incidents of alleged illegal dealings of liquor in various armed forces canteens have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons found purchasing liquor more than the prescribed quantity and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent the liquor supplied to canteens being sold in the open market on a large scale?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). One L/Nk drew 8 bottles of RUM by forging signatures

of an officer from HQrs Pune Sub-Area Canteen and sold them in league with two Sales Assistants of the Canteen. After investigation the 3 persons found guilty were duly punished under the Service Rules applicable to them.

(c) and (d): There is no report regarding purchase of liquor, from the Unit Run Canteens, more than the prescribed quantity. The distribution of liquor to Armed Forces Personnel is regulated and monitored by the Officer Commanding of each Unit as per guidelines on the subject issued by the Army HQrs, from time to time. The existing guidelines provide adequate safeguards against unauthorised sale of liquor from any URC.

[English]

New Bye-Pass Connection for Cochin Port

4999. PROF. K.V THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) the progress made in connecting Cochin Port with the Cochin Bye-Pass via the new Thevera bridge; and

(b) the time by which the work on this road is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Construction of NH 47-A Link Road connecting Cochin Port with Cochin bypass is being done in two phases. In Phase I, length 3.75 kms, construction of Venduruthy bridge has been completed and the balance works are in various stages of progress. It is likely to be completed by December, 1992. In phase II, length 2.17 kms, land acquisition has already been completed. An estimate amounting to Rs. 43.09 crores for the project has been sanctioned in January, 1992, and Ten-